

20 October 1948

Document Section, 7707th European Command Intelligence Center

Date Visited: 15, 19 July, 24, 27 August 1948

GENERAL

1. The Document Section is the central shipping point for the bulk of the documentary material sent to the German Military Documents Section in Washington. It also makes disposition of documents to agencies within the European Command. It has frequently been the policy of this section to forward to Intelligence Group, ECIC the majority of the more valuable intelligence documents where they are retained for reference purposes or until exploitation of them is completed. The document section itself does not retain an appreciable number of documents on hand for any length of time as it is considered a shipping point rather than a document repository.

2. The personnel of the section include Major Kaufman, chief, one enlisted man, two civilians, and a few indigenous personnel who do the packing and crating of documents. The contracts of the two civilians were due to expire this month and will not be renewed. It is planned that they will be replaced by two enlisted men.

3. Shipments from this section to GMDS have been vastly improved during recent months both in quality of material sent and in shipping procedure. It is believed that in the near future shipments of captured documents will drop off considerably as the majority of captured documents of any value have been evacuated from the theater. Captain Bernhardt, chief of the Document and Photo Section, ODI says there is approximately two hundred tons of material that still will be sent to GMDS. However, only a small portion of this material will be for GMDS; the majority will be earmarked for other agencies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. It is suggested that detailed transmittal lists of all documents disposed of within the theater by Document Section be sent to GMDS. If such an arrangement is made, agencies within the Zone of Interior may then request through GMDS loan of a particular document of interest to them or, if this is not possible, a photostatic copy of the document.

JCS and DIA review(s) completed.